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Week 1 Project 3

The New York Times: This Day in History

This project prompt was a fun assignment historically and personally. Looking at the date April 29th in the years 1947 to 1952. Utilizing the ProQuest Historical Newspapers archive I will be comparing and contrasting front page articles from these dates to see their correlation, if any, to events of the Cold War. Searching for a change of tone the reports are written or a change in tension the reports were portraying.

The front page of the *New York Times* for the year 1947 does not showcase any information on the Cold War in terms of front page headlines. The major headline titled “New Curbs Asked on Relief Abroad.”¹ However, this particular article can be seen as a stepping stone to the importance that democracy gains as the Cold War approaches. April 29th of 1948 “Iran Said to Fear New Soviet Move”² headlines the front page. This article's tone is ominous even from the title and its use of the word fear to directly invoke a particular emotion in its audience. Stating “Diplomatic Reports are especially nervous about the next few weeks and speculate about the possibilities of a serious crisis in the middle of May.”³ A sense of growing tension seemed to be building from 1947 to 1948 bringing us to the following year. “Berlin Barges Stir

¹ By CPTRUSSELL Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. "NEW CURBS ASKED ON RELIEF ABROAD." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1947.

² By C L SULZBERGER Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. "IRAN SAID TO FEAR NEW SOVIET MOVE." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1948.

³ Ibid; C L SULZBERGER Special.

British-Soviet Row”⁴ still no direct mention to spies, or the Cold War specifically but a continuation of growing skepticism can be seen from the front pages in 1949. The article talks about British and Russian tensions, “Armed British military police held possession of three canal locks in their sector of Berlin tonight after having frustrated a Russian attempt to block canal traffic and gain partial control over the airlift supplying the blockaded city.”⁵ With the use of vocabulary like armed, military, and control the article dives straight into the audiences’ sentiments of rigidity.

Moving towards the fifties, 1950, with the article titled “Mixed Feelings in Italy”⁶ utilized key words that are often linked to the Cold War. This special article to the *New York Times* talked about an offer Yugoslavia made for Italy in regards to a trade of territories. “Caused howls of indignation from all Italians except the Communists.”⁷ This direct verbiage is the closest article, of the past 4 years that connects to the Cold War, with its call to communism. Just a year later “Japanese Still Uneasy about the New Regime”⁸ portrayed a sense of moving forward. This article touched upon the uncertainty Japan had with the pardon of MacArthur and how the new general Ridgway was “more interested in the Korean war.”⁹ The narrative seemed to almost pardon the imprinted ideology that the people had of the Cold war, and put it on pause. The last year 1952 the *New York Times* front page article reads “For a German Plan”¹⁰ this article speaks of how the Soviets proposed a free election for a complete German Government. While at

⁴ By SYDNEY GRUSON Special to THE NEW, YORK TIMES. "BERLIN BARGES STIR BRITISH-SOVIET ROW." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1949.

⁵ Ibid; SYDNEY GRUSON Special.

⁶ Special to THE NEW, YORK TIMES. (1950, Apr 29). Mixed feelings in Italy. *New York Times (1923-Current File)*

⁷ Ibid; Special to the NEW, YORK TIMES.

⁸ By LINDESAY PARROTT Special to THE NEW, YORK TIMES. "JAPANESE STILL UNEASY ABOUT THE NEW REGIME." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1951.

⁹ Ibid; LINDESAY PARROTT.

¹⁰ By JAMES RESTON Special to THE NEW, YORK TIMES. "WEST TO ASK SOVIET FOR A GERMAN PLAN." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1952.

the same time portraying many problems the Soviets proposed; “anti-Communist politicians cannot conduct an effective campaign in East Germany from prison cells.”¹¹

Over the years, 1947-1952, the *New York Times* has had many wide ranging articles. On April 29th of these years the growth of the Cold war ideologies and the tonality the media had on the public formulated in a variety of ways.

- I Pledge (719)

¹¹ By JAMES RESTON Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. "WEST TO ASK SOVIET FOR A GERMAN PLAN." *New York Times (1923-Current File)*, Apr 29, 1952.

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